

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-14, 17-24, and 26-30 are pending. Claims 1, 6, 11, 13, 14, 21, 24, and 28 have been amended, claims 9, 15, 16, and 25 have been canceled, and new claims 29 and 30 have been added to recite additional features of the embodiments disclosed in the specification.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 1-8 and 1-28 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) for being anticipated by AAPA, which is now indicated to correspond to the structures shown in Figures 2, 4, and 7B of the application drawings. Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection for the following reasons.

At the outset, Applicants note that on page 10 of the previous Amendment, an indication was made that Figure 7B supports claim 1. This indication was the result of a typographical error. To correct this typographical error, it is clear that Figure 5B and Figure 7C supports this claim. (See, for example, Paragraph [50] of the specification which clarifies that while Figures 7A and 7B are related-art structures, Figure 7C corresponds to one embodiment of the invention).

Turning now to the amendments presented in this paper, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the counter electrode has “a plurality of first holes and a plurality of second holes, wherein the plurality of first holes are aligned in a first direction and the plurality of second holes are aligned in a second direction, wherein the first direction is substantially perpendicular to the second direction.” These features are not included in any of the counter electrode structures shown in Figures 2, 4, and 7B of the application drawings.

More specifically, in Figures 2 and 4, each counter electrode has one and only one hole. In Figure 7B, each counter electrode 203 has two holes. Unlike claim 1, the holes extend in only one direction, e.g., the horizontal direction. There is, however, only one hole in the vertical direction. This hole extends throughout the entire length of the counter electrode.

In contrast, the counter electrode in claim 1 has a plurality of first holes that are aligned in a first direction and a plurality of holes that are aligned in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction. (See, for example, the grid pattern of holes shown in the exemplary embodiment of Figure 7C).

Because AAPA does not have all the features recited claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that AAPA does not anticipate this claim or any of its dependent claims. Furtherance of claim 1 and its dependent claims to allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 14, and 24 have been amended to recite features similar to those that patentably distinguish claim 1 from AAPA. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 6, 14, and 24 are allowable along with their dependent claims.

Dependent claim 11 recites that the counter electrode in claim 1 “includes multiple first holes aligned in the first direction and multiple second holes aligned in the second direction in each pixel area.” These features are not included in any of the structures corresponding to AAPA. Dependent claims 13, 21, and 28 recite similar features. It is submitted that these claims are allowable based on these additional differences.

New claims 29 and 30 have been added to the application.

Claim 29 recites that “portions of the counter electrode are located between adjacent pairs of the first holes aligned in the first direction, and portions of the counter electrode are located between adjacent pairs of the second holes aligned in the second direction.” (See, for example, Figure 7C where a strip material of the counter electrode is located between adjacent pairs of holes in the first and second directions). These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 30 recites that “each of the first holes and the second holes has one of the following shapes: a triangle, a circle, a cross, or a polygon having more than four sides.” In the Office Action, the Examiner relied on Figure 2 to provide the features of claim 2. Figure 2 shows that each counter electrode includes a single rectangular hole. Figure 7B shows that each counter electrode includes two rectangular holes. A rectangle is a four-sided polygon. However, AAPA does not disclose the shapes of the holes recited in claim 30. Based on these differences, Applicants submit that claim 30 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

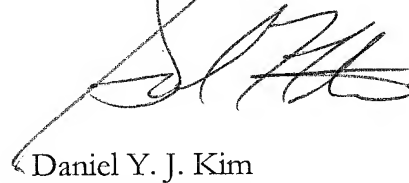
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and

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